

DCI/IC 75-3859  
18 November 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: National Intelligence Officer, Western Europe

SUBJECT : DCI Response to "Issues and Answers" Paper Number 5

1. Reference is the paper, "Production of National and Other Intelligence Estimates" dated 4 November, which you drafted in response to "issues and answers" topic No. 5.

2. Mr. Colby returned the paper on 14 November with the following comment:

"I confess a strong view in support of NIO's and against a BNE -

a. The BNE inclines to fuzz and pontification of dubious utility. The NIO inclines to sharper focus on direct policy support.

b. We must merge substance and management or the latter becomes sterile.

c. The NIO is more inclined to reflect variations in judgments in the Community. The BNE is more inclined to "resolve" or reject them.

d. The NIO energizes the Community. The BNE is more apt to generate competitive efforts or end runs.

e. We need substantive officers to orchestrate collection for the DCI - by specialty."

3. Since the DCI did not indicate any interest on a follow-on to either of the alternatives which were proposed in the paper, I consider that our action on this particular study is ended. The DCI seems ready to stand with his present NIO organization.

/s/ Samuel V. Wilson

Samuel V. Wilson  
Lieutenant General, U.S.A.  
Chairman, Action Plan Task Group

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